

As with most things considerate behavior is appropriate. When the available spectrum is crowded narrower signal band widths should be utilized. When the band is not crowded wider bandwidths are reasonable. Given that all amateurs do not always behave as considerate adults one must establish more objective criteria. At the same time I hope we can't become so rigid as to discourage experimentation with varying signal bandwidths. We know other factors such as power level and traditional speech processing greatly affect perceived bandwidth. Based on my own subjective observations a 3 kHz wide audio bandwidth transmitter can produce very acceptable SSB audio. However, when these transmitters are producing a 20db over S9 signal at the receiving station they may appear to have a much broader signal. Three kHz seems like a reasonable guide but should be a guideline just like the guideline to use minimum power to achieve acceptable communications. Thank you. David McDaniel W0LRK